

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1 and 4 as indicated below, wherein deleted material is shown by strikethrough (or double brackets) and added material is underlined. A complete listing of claims pending in the application following entry of this Amendment are presented as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A vending machine comprising a controller having an interface to which a portable recording medium is detachably mountable, a storage having operation data stored therein, and a central processing unit,

wherein said central processing unit executes an operation data transfer program, which is stored in advance in a memory space on said portable recording medium mounted to said interface and executed from said portable recording medium, to thereby transfer the operation data from said storage to said portable recording medium or transfer the operation data from said portable recording medium to said storage, and said central processing unit directly accesses said memory space to execute said operation data transfer program from said portable recording medium.

2. (Original) The vending machine according to claim 1, further comprising a remote controller to be connected to said controller,

wherein the operation data is stored in a plurality of memory blocks of said storage, and said controller performs transferring of the operation data for each memory block designated by said remote controller.

3. (Original) The vending machine according to claim 1, further comprising a remote controller to be connected to said controller,

wherein said operation data transfer program includes an extracting program for transferring the operation data from said storage to said portable recording medium and a writing program for transferring the operation data from said portable recording medium to said storage, and

said controller executes said extracting program or said writing program according to a processing mode designated by said remote controller.

4. (Currently Amended) A portable recording medium having recorded in a memory space therein an operation data transfer program which causes a vending machine comprising a controller having an interface to which [[a]] said portable recording medium is detachably mountable, a storage having operation data stored therein, and a central processing unit to function as means for transferring operation data from said storage to said portable recording medium or transferring the operation data from said portable recording medium to said storage, and said central processing unit being configured to directly access the memory space to execute said operation data transfer program ~~being executed~~ from said portable recording medium.